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APRIL 6.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Forty-two persons present.

The death of Wm. Theodore Røpper, a correspondent, was announced.

APRIL 13.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-eight persons present.

A paper entitled "Description of a New Species of *Catostomus* (*C. cypho*), from the Colorado River," by Wm. N. Lockington, was presented for publication.

The death of M. Laporte, Count de Castelnau, a correspondent, was announced.

Remarks on Pond Life.—Prof. Leidy remarked, that at the invitation of Mr. Joseph W. Griscom, he had recently visited some little ponds in the vicinity of Woodbury, New Jersey, which were remarkable for the profusion of minute invertebrate life. The ponds occupy hollows in the woods, and consist mostly of accumulated rain water, though several are likewise supplied by springs. Several are completely dried up during the summer. Mr. Griscom says they continue rich in animal life even during the winter.

Of animals, entomostracans are exceedingly numerous and varied. Among some of the most beautiful and conspicuous were noticed abundance of *Branchipus*, of which two species from the same locality have been recently described by Mr. Ryder, under the names of *Chirocephalus holmanii* and *Streptocephalus scalii*. There are also wonderful multitudes of many species of copepods, ostracods and cladoceres, several of which are conspicuous for their large size and bright red color.

In one of the ponds a bright green *Hydra* was frequent, and in another a pinkish one was abundant. These appear to be the *H. gracilis* and *H. carnea* of Agassiz, but it is a question whether they are not the same as the *H. viridis* and *H. fusca* of Europe. Some of the Hydres were of a bright red color, and Mr. Griscom intimated that this was due to the pinkish variety feeding on red entomostracans. This was confirmed by some of the pink ones which were brought home and kept in a jar with abundance of

red Cyclops, becoming, after a few days, as a result of feeding on the latter, of the same orange-red hue. Subsequently, when food became scarce, the red Hydras lost their bright color.

In one of the ponds, the stems of rushes and dead branches of trees were invested with a bright grass-green stratum, consisting of a bright green *Vorticella*, probably the *V. fasciculata* of Müller. The green color is dependent on chlorophyl granules, as an element of the structure, and not on food. The body of the animal ranged from 0.108 mm. long by 0.06 mm. broad, to 0.12 mm. long by 0.09 mm. broad. A few measured were 0.15 mm. long by 0.102 mm. broad at the peristome. In a large active bunch, most of them measured 0.09 mm. long and broad. The pedicels were from five to eight times the length of the body.

In another pond, the water was rendered turbid from the profusion of *Volvox globator*. In a bay of this pond filled with dead leaves, a portion of water taken into a jar appeared opalescent from the quantity of minute white flakes it contained. These, on examination, proved to be *Spirostomum ambiguum*. In the same pond, the Spatterdock, *Nuphar advena*, was just about unfolding its leaves, and many of these were thickly invested with a clear jelly, dotted with bright green spots. These proved to be *Stentor polymorphus*. On the under side of a few open leaves on the surface of the water, were many spots of bright green and dull reddish. The former consisted of groups of the green *Vorticella* before mentioned, the other consisted of attached groups of a lilac- or amethystine-colored *Stentor*, probably *S. igneus*. Similar groups of this *Stentor* were observed on a floating log, which had been in the water since last year, as it exhibited attached many statoblasts of a *Plumatella*. Ehrenberg describes *S. igneus* as bright yellow or vermilion; Stein as blood red, or often lilac-colored, or vermilion to brownish red. Ehrenberg found it attached to *Hottonia*. Stein says he never saw it fixed, but always swimming.

The Woodbury variety which might be named *S. amethystinus*, was abundant and invariably found in conspicuous groups, visible to the unaided eye, and when detached, though the animals swam about actively, they were not only disposed to become fixed, but they actually gathered together in groups. They all contained an abundance of chlorophyl, apparently derived from food, but the exterior structure was invariably of a distinct amethystine hue, dependent on fine molecules. The color was more pronounced in the longitudinal bands approaching the peristome. The nucleus was spherical.

In the attached state, when the animal was fully extended and presented a trumpet shape, it was 0.6 mm. long by 0.18 mm. wide at the peristome. This was a common size, but some measured were 0.84 mm. long. In the conical form, when swimming, individuals ranged from 0.27 to 0.42 mm. long. In the most con-

tracted condition of oval shape, they measured 0·18 mm. long by 0·15 mm. broad. The nucleus, 0·03 mm. in diameter.

Ehrenberg and Stein give for *S. igneus* one-sixth of a line length, so that the variety indicated would appear to be much longer.

APRIL 20.

MR. THOMAS MEEHAN, Vice-President, in the chair.

Twenty-nine persons present.

APRIL 27.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-four persons present.

Lionel S. Beale, of London, was elected a correspondent.

MAY 4.

MR. THOMAS MEEHAN, Vice-President, in the chair.

Twenty-eight persons present.

MAY 11.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-two persons present.

The following papers were ordered to be printed in the Journal of the Academy.

“The Terrestrial Mollusca inhabiting the Cooks or Harvey Islands,” by Andrew Garrett.

“The Placenta and Generative Apparatus of the Elephant,” by Henry C. Chapman, M. D.